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INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-10	ACDE-00	INLB-01	AID-00	AMAD-01	A-00
	CA-02	CG-00	CIAE-00	INL-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DS-00
	EUR-01	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	JUSE-00	L-01
	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OES-01	OIC-02	OIG-04	OIS-01
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O.P 182148Z SEP 96
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

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INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
24TH WING HOWARD AFB PA PRIORITY
USCINCLANT NORFOLK VA PRIORITY
CDR 193RD INFBDE (PAN) FT CLAYTON PN AFZU-PO PRIORITY
NAVSTA PANAMA CANAL RODMAN PN/PAO PRIORITY
USTRANS INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//INOW// PRIORITY
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO PRIORITY

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: DONALD A. JOHNSTON
DATE/CASE ID: 28 SEP 2001 200004441

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USIA WASHDC PRIORITY 0000
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ
AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO
AMCONSUL MERIDA
AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN
AMCONSUL TIJUANA
XMT AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

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ALL POSTS FOR PAO; LU FOR RFAUCHER; MONTREAL FOR ICAO

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: OPRC
SUBJECT: ARA GUIDANCES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1996

ARA PRESS GUIDANCES, SEPTEMBER 17, 1996:

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-- HAITI: HAS US TRAINED PALACE SECURITY STAFF? --

Q: HAS THE U.S. TRAINED ANY OF THE PALACE SECURITY STAFF
WHO HAVE BEEN FIRED OR TRANSFERRED?

A: WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF HAITI
HAS SUSPENDED THE DIRECTOR AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE
PRESIDENTIAL SECURITY UNIT. BOTH OF THESE INDIVIDUALS
PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED A FOUR-WEEK VIP PROTECTION TRAINING
COURSE CONDUCTED BY STATE DEPARTMENT DIPLOMATIC SECURITY
PERSONNEL.

-- HAITI: REACTION TO HELMS LETTER? --

Q: SENATOR HELMS SENT A LETTER TO SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER
BASICALLY STATING THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS DECIDED TO
SPEND \$3 MILLION, WITHOUT CONSULTING CONGRESS, TO PROTECT
PRESIDENT PREVAL FROM HIS OWN SECURITY PEOPLE. HAVE YOU
RECEIVED THE LETTER? WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO IT?

A: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT, THE

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STATE DEPARTMENT PROVIDED ADVANCE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE AND THE CHAIRMAN AND RANKING MEMBER OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF OUR EFFORTS TO TEMPORARILY AUGMENT PALACE SECURITY AND TRAIN PALACE SECURITY STAFF. STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS ALSO SPOKE TO KEY STAFF MEMBERS ABOUT THESE EFFORTS. WE HAVE BRIEFED THE STAFF OF THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND KEY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES, AND HAVE OFFERED BRIEFINGS TO ALL INTERESTED MEMBERS AND THEIR STAFF. WE AGREE WITH
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SENATOR HELMS THAT MUTUAL, AMICABLE COOPERATION BETWEEN CAPITOL HILL AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS NECESSARY.

-- MEXICO: ASSASSINATION OF TIJUANA FEDERAL POLICE COMMANDER --

Q: WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO THE ASSASSINATION YESTERDAY OF THE NEW COMMANDER OF THE FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE IN TIJUANA? WHO DOES THE U.S. BELIEVE IS RESPONSIBLE?

A: THIS LATEST IN A STRING OF KILLINGS OF MEXICAN POLICE AND JUDICIAL OFFICIALS IN THE TIJUANA AREA IS A SERIOUS MATTER FOR MEXICAN LAW ENFORCEMENT. WE HOPE THAT THE KILLERS WILL BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

COMMANDER ERNESTO IBARRA'S ASSASSINATION REMINDS US OF THE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT AND DANGEROUS TASK OF THOSE FIGHTING DRUG TRAFFICKING.

ANYTHING I WOULD SAY ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS KILLING WOULD BE NOTHING BUT SPECULATION.

-- MEXICO: POLICE CORRUPTION --

Q: WHAT IS THE EXTENT OF POLICE CORRUPTION IN MEXICO?

A: THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES THAT POLICE CORRUPTION IS WIDESPREAD. PRESIDENT ZEDILLO HAS PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGED THE SEVERITY AND IMPORTANCE OF THIS PROBLEM AND IS COMMITTED TO IMPLEMENTING REFORMS WHICH WILL MAKE MEXICO A "COUNTRY OF LAWS."

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ONE STEP IN THIS REFORM PROCESS WAS THE RECENT FIRING BY ATTORNEY GENERAL LOZANO OF 737 AGENTS OF THE FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE. LOZANO HAS NOW FIRED OVER ONE-FOURTH OF THE 4700 OFFICERS OF THE FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE ON THE FORCE WHEN HE TOOK OFFICE.

EVEN WITH THIS ACTION, LOZANO HAS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE IS STILL A LOT TO BE DONE. HE HAS TAKEN STEPS TO IMPROVE RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING OF NEW OFFICERS, AND HAS RESTRUCTURED HIS DEPARTMENT TO ENHANCE ACCOUNTABILITY.

-- MEXICO: ADVICE FOR TOURISTS --

Q: WHAT DO WE TELL U.S. TOURISTS TRAVELLING TO MEXICO ABOUT CORRUPTION THERE?

A: THE BUREAU OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS PUBLICATION "TIPS FOR TRAVELLERS TO MEXICO" STATES:

"BE AWARE OF PERSONS REPRESENTING THEMSELVES AS MEXICAN POLICE OR OTHER LOCAL OFFICIALS. IT IS NOT UNCOMMON FOR AMERICANS TO BECOME VICTIMS OF HARASSMENT, MISTREATMENT, AND EXTORTION BY MEXICAN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND OTHER OFFICIALS. MEXICAN AUTHORITIES ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THESE INCIDENTS AND HAVE COOPERATED IN INVESTIGATING SUCH CASES. YOU MUST, HOWEVER, HAVE THE OFFICER'S NAME, BADGE NUMBER, AND PATROL CAR NUMBER TO PURSUE A COMPLAINT. MAKE A NOTE OF THIS INFORMATION IF YOU ARE EVER INVOLVED WITH POLICE OR OTHER OFFICIALS."

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-- PERU: VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS CASE --

Q. WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO CHARGES THAT PRESIDENT FUJIMORI'S ADVISOR VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS MAY HAVE ACCEPTED PAYMENTS FROM DRUG TRAFFICKERS? DO WE BELIEVE THERE TO BE HIGH-LEVEL DRUG CORRUPTION IN PERU?

A. IN THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL STRATEGY REPORT RELEASED ON MARCH 1, 1996, WE SAID "AS A MATTER OF GOVERNMENT POLICY OR PRACTICE, THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU DOES NOT ENCOURAGE OR FACILITATE ILLICIT PRODUCTION OR DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTIC OR PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS OR OTHER

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CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES. NO SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU IS KNOWN TO ENGAGE IN, ENCOURAGE OR FACILITATE THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION OR DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH DRUGS OR SUBSTANCES, OR THE LAUNDERING OF PROCEEDS FROM ILLEGAL DRUG TRANSACTIONS."

NO INFORMATION HAS COME TO OUR ATTENTION CONCERNING ANY INDIVIDUAL--INCLUDING MR. MONTESINOS--THAT WOULD LEAD US TO CHANGE THIS EVALUATION.

Q. DOES/DID MR. MONTESINOS MAINTAIN A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CIA?

A. AS YOU KNOW, WE DO NOT COMMENT ON INTELLIGENCE MATTERS. I WOULD REFER YOUR QUESTION TO THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

Q. DOES THIS MEAN WE DON'T THINK DRUG CORRUPTION IS A PROBLEM IN PERU?

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A. NO. AS WE SAID IN OUR REPORT IN MARCH, OFFICIAL CORRUPTION EXISTS AND DOES IMPEDE DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT. HOWEVER, THIS IS A PERVASIVE INDIVIDUAL PHENOMENON, NOT AN INSTITUTIONAL ONE. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF TIGHTLY ORGANIZED CORRUPTION WHICH FUNNELS MONEY TO HIGHER LEVELS IN A STRUCTURED MANNER.

CHRISTOPHER

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